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INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION AND CONSTRUCTION IN CHINA,  
JANUARY-JUNE 1953

[Comment: This report presents information on industrial production and construction in various areas of Communist China taken mainly from the Miscellaneous Industrial Report Section of the March, April, May, and June 1953 issues of the Chung-kuo Kung-yeh. Information in this report is listed under the following categories: iron and steelworks, mines, construction material plants, power plant, and light industries.]

Numbers in parentheses refer to appended sources.]

An-shan Iron and Steel Company

On 9 March 1953, Furnace No 8 of the An-shan Iron and Steel Company, the first automatic smelting furnace in China, began production. Soviet technical aid played a very important part in the construction of this furnace.(1) On 12 April 1953, only 0.98 cubic meter of furnace space was required to process one ton of pig iron in this furnace (compared with the normal requirement of one cubic meter of furnace space per ton of pig iron), thereby increasing the output for the day by 1.81 percent. This output was 78.26 percent over the highest one-day production under Japanese control.(2)

Other Iron and Steel Works

In 1952, the state-operated Hsin-hu Iron and Steel Works was able to exceed its production quota in only one product, namely steel, by producing 117.4 percent. In the case of a certain iron product, it was able to produce only 52 percent of the quota. However, during the first quarter of 1953, the production figures for the various products were as follows: steel, 129 percent of the production quota; chilled cast wheels, 116.9 percent; cold-rolled cast rollers, 210 percent; and nuts and bolts, 114.3 percent.(2)

The state-operated Pen-ch'i Iron and Steel Company exceeded its May 1953 production quotas as follows: steel ingots, by 2.2 percent; cast iron, by 6.21 percent; and coke, by 7.67 percent. The iron refinery and the chilled cast shop of the state-operated Hua-chung Iron and Steel Company fulfilled their May 1953 quotas.(3)

In May 1953, the state-operated Ma-an-shan Iron Refinery resumed operations. More than 1,000 employees are now striving to double the output of this refinery.(3)

Mines

In early 1953, major construction work on the first modern open-pit mine at Fu-hsin, the Hai-chou coal mine, was completed. Plans are now being drawn up to permit operations by 1 July 1953. In the Ta-yeh Iron Mines, a large deposit of magnetite as discovered by Geological Survey Team No 429, of the Ministry of Geology. By 3 April 1953, drilling had reached 223.05 meters below the surface where the rich magnetite deposit is located.(2)

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The installation of a Soviet Donbass coal combine at the Ta-t'ung Coal Mine was successfully completed and tested. A recent test made of this machinery at the mine showed that it could produce 15.65 tons of coal per day per 1 1/2 rotating processes. If the number of rotating processes can be increased to 2 1/2-3, it is estimated that the daily output of coal could be increased to 430-650 tons.(4)

#### Construction Material Plants

Cement Factory No 7 has begun large-scale production of a new high-grade cement which will withstand pressure up to 704 kilograms per square centimeter. The An-shan Iron and Steel Company is reportedly using this cement for construction.(4)

Cork Plant No 1 in Mukden has started to produce insulating material for cold-storage installations. The raw material for this product comes from the forests in the Northeast.(3)

The first plant for impregnating railway ties in Han-yang will be completed in October 1953. By the end of 1952, construction work on an area to hold hundreds of thousand ties, 7 buildings, and 14 rail lines for the transportation of ties was completed. Without impregnation, the life span of a railway tie would be 3-5 years; treatment will increase it to 15-20 years.(2)

#### Electric Power Plant

In early 1953, the construction of Northeast Electric Power Plant No 0170 was completed and by 3 March 1953 the plant began to supply electricity. Some 2,000 tons of imported equipment and 1,000 tons of domestically produced parts and equipment were installed in this plant. Some 2,500 cubic meters of concrete were used in the construction. During the installation of the machinery, an output of some 6,000-7,000 kilowatts of electricity was maintained by this plant.(1)

#### Light Industries

The construction work on the four modern textile mills planned by the Ministry of Textile Industry is progressing according to schedule. The textile mills at Cheng-chou and Shih-chia-chuang are expected to begin operations in July 1953, and those at Peiping and Sian to begin sometime during the third quarter of 1954. Each of the four mills will occupy an area of about 90,000 square meters. With the exception of the Peiping plant, the equipment installed in these mills was manufactured domestically.(5)

In May 1953, construction work was started on the state-operated Kiangsi Textile Mill, the largest in Kiangsi. When completed, the mill will occupy an area of 60,000 square meters.(5)

In January 1953, construction was begun on the reinforced-concrete structure of Chungking Yarn Mill No 610; by the end of March 1953, the work of installing machines will be undertaken. This mill will occupy an area of 4,040 square meters.(2)

A silk machine-reeling plant is being built in Ho-t'ien, Sinkiang. After the completion of the first stage of the construction program sometime in 1953, this plant is expected to start operations, producing about 100 tons of silk annually. In 1954, when the second stage is scheduled for completion, production is expected to double.(3)

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The first phase of the construction work on the state-operated Anhwei Paper Mill in Huai-nan, which was started in October 1952, was completed in May 1953. The completion of the entire project is planned for the end of 1953. Production will begin in 1954. This mill will occupy an area of 17,000 square meters, and will include seven reinforced-concrete shops, occupying an area of some 4,000 square meters.(3)

SOURCES

1. Shanghai, Chung-kuo Kung-yeh, Mar 53
2. Ibid., Apr 53
3. Ibid., Jun 53
4. Ibid., Dec 52
5. Shanghai, Hua-hsueh Shih-chieh, 10 Mar 53
6. Chung-kuo Kung-yeh, May 53

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